

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

*Sub A1*  
1. A method of reporting an end of a scanning session to a user, comprising the steps of:

5 selecting a peripheral device for reporting the end of a scanning session to the user; and

notifying the user through the selected peripheral device after a series of scanning tasks has ended.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device includes a sound card capable of emitting sound.

10 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device includes a loudspeaker installed inside a computer.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device includes a network card capable of transmitting electronic mail to a mailbox of the user.

15 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device includes a digital data recorder capable of dialing a telephone number.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device includes a digital data recorder capable of dialing a pager number.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the peripheral device includes a digital data recorder capable of dialing a mobile telephone number.

*20 Sub A2*  
8. A method of reporting an end of a scanning session to a user, comprising the steps of:

using a computer to detect how many peripheral devices are available for reporting the end of a scanning session to the user;

Sub  
A2

selecting at least a peripheral device to report the end of a scanning session to the user;

performing all scanning tasks in a scanning session;

notifying the user, through the selected peripheral device, that a series of

5 scanning tasks has ended; and

determining if a scanning operation is waiting, wherein if a scanning operation is waiting, the method jumps to the step of selecting the peripheral device, and if no scanning operation is waiting, the scanning operation is terminated.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the peripheral device includes a sound card

10 capable of emitting sound.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein the peripheral device includes a loudspeaker installed inside a computer.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein the peripheral device includes a network card capable of transmitting electronic mail to a mailbox of a user.

15 12. The method of claim 8, wherein the peripheral device includes a digital data recorder capable of dialing a telephone number.

13. The method of claim 8, wherein the peripheral device includes a digital data recorder capable of dialing a pager number.

14. The method of claim 8, wherein the peripheral device includes a digital data recorder capable of dialing a mobile telephone number.